

Amendment and Response

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Serial No.: 10/000.057

Confirmation No.: 9505

Filed: November 1, 2001

For: ABRASION RESISTANT COATING FOR STACKS OF FIBER CEMENT SIDINGAmendments to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the above-identified application:

1-16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) A method of making a fiberboard cement siding product, comprising the steps of:

providing a fiberboard cement substrate layer;

coating a first major surface of the fiberboard cement substrate with a decorative coating;

coating the exposed surface of the decorative coating with a topcoat layer comprising a polyurethane dispersion; and

curing the topcoat layer to provide a mar and abrasion resistant siding; wherein the curing step comprises a thermal curing process that does not expose the siding to a board surface temperature in excess of 100 °C.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein the curing step comprises a thermal curing process that does not expose the siding to provides a board surface temperature in excess of less than 100 °C.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein the fiberboard cement substrate layer has a density of at least 1 g/cm³ and comprises wood pulp, silica and cement, and the outer topcoat layer ~~comprises a polyurethane dispersion and has a dry~~ thickness of at least 8 microns.

20. (Canceled)

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21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~17~~ 19 wherein the outer topcoat layer has a dry thickness of at least 10 microns.

22-30. (Canceled)

31. (New) The method of claim 18, wherein the thermal curing process provides a board surface temperature of less than 80 °C.

32. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein the thermal curing process provides a board surface temperature of less than 70 °C.

33. (New) The method of claim 17, wherein the topcoat layer further comprises an abrasion resistance promoting adjuvant.

34. (New) The method of claim 17, wherein the topcoat layer has a dry thickness of at least 5 microns.

35. (New) The method of claim 34, wherein the topcoat layer has a dry thickness between 5 and 100 microns.

36. (New) The method of claim 34, wherein the topcoat layer has a dry thickness of at least 7 microns.

37. (New) The method of claim 36, wherein the topcoat layer has a dry thickness between 7 and 50 microns.

38. (New) The method of claim 36, wherein the topcoat layer has a dry thickness of at least 8 microns.

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39. (New) The method of claim 38, wherein the topcoat layer has a dry thickness between 8 and 30 microns.
40. (New) The method of claim 38, wherein the topcoat layer has a dry thickness of at least 10 microns.
41. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the topcoat layer has a dry thickness between 10 and 25 microns.
42. (New) The method of claim 17, wherein the polyurethane dispersion is an aliphatic isocyanate-based polyurethane dispersion.
43. (New) The method of claim 17, wherein the polyurethane dispersion comprises a polyurethane having a number average molecular weight of at least 1800.
44. (New) The method of claim 43, wherein the polyurethane dispersion comprises a polyurethane having a number average molecular weight of at least 5000.
45. (New) The method of claim 44, wherein the polyurethane dispersion comprises a polyurethane having a number average molecular weight of at least 9000.
46. (New) The method of claim 17, wherein the polyurethane dispersion comprises a polyurethane having an acid number between 6.5 and 80 mg KOH per gram solid polymer.
47. (New) The method of claim 46, wherein the polyurethane dispersion comprises a polyurethane having an acid number between 9 and 50 mg KOH per gram solid polymer.

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48. (New) The method of claim 47, wherein the polyurethane dispersion comprises a polyurethane having an acid number between 10 and 30 mg KOH per gram solid polymer.

49. (New) The method of claim 17, wherein the topcoat layer has a pigment volume concentration of less than 20 percent.

50. (New) The method of claim 49, wherein the topcoat layer has a pigment volume concentration of less than 15 percent.